

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 CAPE T 00580 181740Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-13 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /081 W

-----190157Z 125702 /63

R 181525Z APR 77

FM AMEMBASSY CAPE TOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5972

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMCONSUL DURBAN

AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMCONSUL JOHANNESBURG

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MAPUTO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE CAPE TOWN 0580

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR SF

SUBJ: SAG MINISTER STATES US HAS PRIORITIES WRONG IN

AFRICA AND SUGGESTS SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT LOOK

ELSEWHERE FOR FRIENDS

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. SUMMARY. MIN INFOR MULDER TOLD HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
APRIL 14, WHILE SOUTH AFRICA HAD DEEP RESPECT FOR US, IT WAS
"SICK AND TIRED" OF BEING ON THE RECEIVING END OF US AFRICA
POLICY. HE CAUTIONED US AGAINST FOCUSING ON MORAL
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 CAPE T 00580 181740Z

ISSUES WHILE USSR IS "CONCENTRATING ON PRACTICAL THINGS."
MULDER WONDERED WHETHER SOUTH AFRICA SHOULD LOOK FOR
FRIENDS ELSEWHERE. END SUMMARY.

2. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS, MIN INFO CONNIE
MULDER, SPEAKING IN HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY DURING BUDGET
DEBATE APRIL 14, QUOTED CHINESE PROVERB "MY ENEMY'S

ENEMY IS MY FRIEND" IN RAISING QUESTION OF WHETHER OR NOT WEST COULD CONTINUE TO TAKE SOUTH AFRICA'S ALLEGIANCE FOR GRANTED. SOVIETS WERE IN PROCESS OF UNDERMINING AREAS OF LEAST RESISTANCE IN AFRICA AS PART OF GLOBAL STRATEGY. "PRESIDENT JIMMY CARTER SHOULD BE CAUTIOUS IN ORDER NOT TO GO DOWN IN HISTORY AS THE MAN WHO LOST THE CASE FOR THE WEST BY BUSYING HIMSELF WITH HIGH MORAL ISSUES WHILE RUSSIA IS CONCENTRATING ON PRACTICAL THINGS," PRESS REPORTED MULDER AS SAYING.

3. MULDER ACKNOWLEDGED APPRECIATION FOR WHAT US HAS DONE OVER PAST 300 (SIC) YEARS, AND THAT US WAS LEADER OF WEST. BUT IT WAS TO HIM INCONCEIVABLE THAT MR. ANDREW YOUNG COULD BE SO ILL-INFORMED AS TO DESCRIBE SA ACTIONS AS PARANOIAC AND AN OVER-REACTION TO RUSSIAN THREAT. IN PAST, RECOGNIZING THREAT GERMANY POSED DURING WW II, US HAD CONDONED COMMUNISM IN COURSE OF COMBATTING THE GREATER THREAT. "IS IT ASKING TOO MUCH OF AMERICA AND THE FREE WORLD, KNOWING WHAT IS GOING ON IN THIS COUNTRY, WHETHER IT IS IMPOSSIBLE FOR THEM TO ALSO CONDONE THIS POLICY?", MULDER REPORTEDLY ASKED. WHILE US COULD PLAY POSITIVE ROLE IN MARSHALLING AFRICA TO STAND AGAINST RUSSIAN ONSLAUGHT, IT SEEMED TO PREFER TO HIDE BEHIND FIG LEAF. WHEREAS COMMUNIST STATES WERE UNITED IN COMMON PURPOSE, WESTERN STATES SEEMED TO OPERATE IN ISOLATION.

4. MULDER WONDERED IF PERHAPS AMERICA DID NOT NEED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 CAPE T 00580 181740Z

ANOTHER PEARL HARBOR TO AWAKEN IT FROM ITS SLEEP: "WHERE MUST THIS NEW PEARL HARBOR BE?" HE ASKED. IN THE FACE OF THE SEVERAL "SLAPS" THE US HAS GIVEN TO SOUTH AFRICA, PERHAPS THE REPUBLIC SHOULD LOOK FOR NEW FRIENDS IN DIFFERENT QUARTERS, HE REPORTEDLY CONCLUDED. "IF SURVIVAL IS AT STAKE, NO RULES APPLY."

5. OPPOSITION PRP LEADER EGLIN TOLD THE HOUSE APRIL 15 THAT MULDER'S "STRONG IMPLICATION" THAT SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT SEEK SUPPORT FROM COMMUNIST CHINA "HAS SOME MIND-BOGGING INTERNATIONAL AND IDEOLOGICAL IMPLICATIONS." HE ASKED WHETHER VORSTER OR FOREIGN MINISTER BOTHA HAD CLEARED THE SPEECH. EGLIN HAD "NO DOUBT THAT THIS IS A DELIBERATE ATTEMPT TO UPSTAGE AND PRE-EMPT" THE NEW FOREIGN MINISTER. END UNCLASSIFIED.

6. COMMENT: ASSERTIONS THAT THE US IS BEING CARELESS ABOUT THE SOVIET CHALLENGE IN AFRICA IS A COMMON NATIONALIST THEME THESE DAYS. MULDER'S SUGGESTION THAT

SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR FRIENDS HAS
RAISED SOME SOUTH AFRICAN EYEBROWS BUT IT IS NOT TAKEN
SERIOUSLY. ATTENTION HAS FOCUSSED RATHER ON WHY MULDER
ADDRESSED FOREIGN POLICY, CHOSE PARLIAMENT AS THE FORUM,
AND DID SO JUST AS PIK BOTHA HAD TAKEN OFFICE AS FOREIGN
MINISTER AND IS VERY MUCH IN THE LIMELIGHT. THIS HAS
GIVEN RISE TO SPECULATION THAT MULDER, CONCERNED OVER
THE WIDE AND FAVORABLE PUBLICITY WHICH BOTHA IS GETTING,
WAS TRYING TO BOLSTER HIS OWN POLITICAL POSITION AGAINST
WHAT HE SEES AS THE THREAT POSED BY BOTHA.BOWDLER

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLICIES, FOREIGN RELATIONS, SPEECHES, CENTRAL LEGISLATURE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 18-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAPET00580
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770134-0996
Format: TEL
From: CAPE TOWN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770448/aaaabpie.tel
Line Count: 126
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 3f7d3aa3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 22-Dec-2004 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2779104
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SAG MINISTER STATES US HAS PRIORITIES WRONG IN AFRICA AND SUGGESTS SOUTH AFRICA MIGHT LOOK ELSEWHERE FOR FRIENDS
TAGS: PFOR, SF, US, (MULDER, CONNIE)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/3f7d3aa3-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009